

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 100774

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:DAO'DONOHUE:CHG

APPROVED BY EA - MR HABIB

IO - MR BAKER

S/S - MR BORG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 100774

EXDIS/ FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KN, US, UN

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN NOTE TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REF: USUN 1683

1. YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONVEY TO BLUE HOUSE AND FONMIN PARK TEXT OF NORTH KOREAN MESSAGE DELIVERED USUN CONTAINED REFTEL. IN PASSING NORTH KOREAN MESSAGE YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT WE ARE ALSO SEEKING ROKG VIEWS ON OUR PROPOSED HANDLING OF MESSAGE (PARA 4-6 BELOW).

2. YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT MESSAGE WAS DELIVERED AT NORTH KOREAN INITIATIVE TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AT USUN.

3. YOU SHOULD ALSO CONVEY OUR ASSESSMENT THAT NORTH KOREAN MESSAGE IS OBVIOUS PROPAGANDA DOCUMENT DESIGNED TO EMBARRASS USG AND TO HIGHLIGHT NORTH KOREAN PROPOSAL TO MEET WITH US ALONE TO DISCUSS ITS PEACE AGREEMENT PROPOSAL, TERMINATION OF UN COMMAND AND WITHDRAWAL OF US FORCES.

4. SUBJECT TO ROKG AGREEMENT WE INTEND TO AUTHORIZE USUN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 100774

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACT TO PASS ORALLY LIMITED COMMENT THAT

NORTH KOREAN PROPOSAL OBVIOUSLY UNACCEPTABLE TO US, AND CALL THEIR ATTENTION TO OUR CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN SECRETARY'S UN SPEECH OF LAST YEAR, INDICATING THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO TALK TO NORTH KOREA BUT ONLY IN FORUM IN WHICH ROKG PARTICIPATES.

5. WE WOULD ALSO EXPECT NORTH KOREA TO SURFACE AT SOME POINT LETTER AND FACT OF ITS DELIVERY, PROBABLY HIGHLIGHTING THEIR PROPOSAL FOR MEETING BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND USG. IF THIS HAPPENS WE WILL PUBLICLY CONFIRM FACT OF DELIVERY, INDICATE THAT LETTER WAS SIMPLY REITERATION OF STANDING NORTH KOREAN PROPAGANDA THEMES AND THAT WE AND THE ROKG REMAIN READY TO MEET TO DISCUSS MAINTENANCE OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND OTHER MEASURES TO REDUCE TENSIONS. AT SAME TIME WE WILL STRESS THAT USG WILL NOT ACCEPT EXCLUSION OF ROK ON MATTERS SO OBVIOUSLY AFFECTING ITS FUTURE. IN OUR VIEW ANY PUBLICATION OF LETTER WOULD REVEAL OBVIOUS PROPAGANDA NATURE OF NORTH KOREAN APPROACH.

6. SUBJECT TO ROKG AGREEMENT WE ALSO INTEND TO INFORMALLY TELL CORE GROUP MEMBERS OF THE NORTH KOREAN APPROACH AND OUR HANDLING OF IT. SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROPAGANDA, INSTRUCTIONS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE100774
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DAO'DONOHUE:CHG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760158-0347
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760420/aaaaaqtktel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTH KOREAN NOTE TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TAGS: PFOR, KN, US, KS, UN
To: SEOUL
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006